

# Indigent Legal Services, Office of

## Mission

The Office of Indigent Legal Services and the associated Indigent Legal Services Board are responsible for examining, overseeing, and improving the quality of New York’s county-based system of providing legal representation to people who are unable to afford an attorney.

## Organization and Staffing

The Office and nine-member Indigent Legal Services Board were created in 2010 to assist county governments in providing counsel to those persons who are legally entitled to counsel, but cannot afford to hire an attorney. The Board is appointed by the Governor and chaired by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. The Board is responsible for nominating a Director to run the day-to-day operations of the Office.

## Budget Highlights

The FY 2024 Executive Budget recommends \$366.6 million All Funds support for the Office of Indigent Legal Services, and a workforce level of 32 FTEs.

## Program Highlights

### *Indigent Legal Services Program*

The Office is responsible for the distribution of State funds appropriated to the counties from the State’s Indigent Legal Services Fund. The State established this dedicated Fund in 2003 to assist localities in meeting the duty to provide legal representation to persons unable to afford counsel. The Office distributes these funds to improve the quality of indigent legal services provided by the counties.

### *Hurrell-Harring Settlement Program*

The Office is responsible for implementing the terms of the Hurrell-Harring Settlement (HHS), in which the State will provide counsel at arraignment, establish caseload standards and eligibility criteria, and improve the quality of defense in the following five counties: Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Suffolk, and Washington.

### *Hurrell-Harring Settlement (HHS) Statewide Implementation*

The Office is tasked with the statewide implementation of counsel at arraignment, Caseload Standards for providers of indigent legal services, and quality improvement initiatives in a manner similar to the plans implemented by the Hurrell-Harring Settlement.

## ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available FY 2023	Appropriations Recommended FY 2024	Change From FY 2023	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2024
State Operations	7,234,284	7,250,000	15,716	0
Aid To Localities	359,310,000	359,310,000	0	1,037,957,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>366,544,284</b>	<b>366,560,000</b>	<b>15,716</b>	<b>1,037,957,000</b>

NYS DOB | FY 2024 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations  
**ALL FUND TYPES**  
**PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM**  
**FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS**

Program	FY 2023 Estimated FTEs 03/31/23	FY 2024 Estimated FTEs 03/31/24	FTE Change
Indigent Legal Services Program			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	19	19	0
HHS Statewide Implementation			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	6	6	0
Hurrell-Harring Settlement			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	7	7	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>0</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS**  
**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE**  
**APPROPRIATIONS**  
(dollars)

Fund Type	Available FY 2023	Recommended FY 2024	Change
Special Revenue Funds - Other	7,234,284	7,250,000	15,716
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,234,284</b>	<b>7,250,000</b>	<b>15,716</b>
Adjustments:			
Transfer(s) From			
Special Pay Bill			
General Fund	(276,284)		
<b>Appropriated FY 2023</b>	<b>6,958,000</b>		

**STATE OPERATIONS**  
**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM**  
**APPROPRIATIONS**  
(dollars)

Program	Available FY 2023	Recommended FY 2024	Change
HHS Statewide Implementation			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,430,000	1,483,000	53,000
Hurrell-Harring Settlement			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,385,000	1,481,000	96,000
Indigent Legal Services Program			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	4,419,284	4,286,000	(133,284)
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,234,284</b>	<b>7,250,000</b>	<b>15,716</b>

NYS DOB | FY 2024 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations  
**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND**  
**SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES**  
**FY 2024 RECOMMENDED**  
**(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
HHS Statewide Implementation	1,483,000	53,000	780,000	38,000
Hurrell-Harring Settlement	1,481,000	96,000	779,000	64,000
Indigent Legal Services Program	4,286,000	(133,284)	2,276,000	(62,700)
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,250,000</b>	<b>15,716</b>	<b>3,835,000</b>	<b>39,300</b>

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
HHS Statewide Implementation	703,000	15,000
Hurrell-Harring Settlement	702,000	32,000
Indigent Legal Services Program	2,010,000	(70,584)
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,415,000</b>	<b>(23,584)</b>

**AID TO LOCALITIES**  
**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE**  
**APPROPRIATIONS**  
**(dollars)**

Fund Type	Available FY 2023	Recommended FY 2024	Change
General Fund	750,000	0	(750,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	358,560,000	359,310,000	750,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>359,310,000</b>	<b>359,310,000</b>	<b>0</b>

**AID TO LOCALITIES**  
**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM**  
**APPROPRIATIONS**  
**(dollars)**

Program	Available FY 2023	Recommended FY 2024	Change
Article 18-B Family Court Representation			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	3,750,000	4,500,000	750,000
HHS Statewide Implementation			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	250,000,000	250,000,000	0
Hurrell-Harring Settlement			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	23,810,000	23,810,000	0
Indigent Legal Services Program			
General Fund	750,000	0	(750,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	81,000,000	81,000,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>359,310,000</b>	<b>359,310,000</b>	<b>0</b>

Note: Most recent estimates as of 02/01/2023